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any revolution such as those which have occurred in Mexico can effect genuine reform. Mr. Gibbon thinks that the only hope is the intervention of some such saving power as that of England in Egypt or of ourselves in the Philippines and Cuba.

This is the innate self-assurance of the Anglo-Saxon, who is quite sure that his own way is best—for himself—and hence must be so for everyone else. But with such intervention should we have any thing other than the domination of a minority which would be in verity alien, and are we sure that such an alien minority (ourselves), would not be as selfish and tyrannical as the Hispanic Mexican, that we should not also degrade the native Indian and the Hispanic Mexican alike, and meantime in the same way corrupt ourselves? Could we ever, once having seriously undertaken to control Mexico by force, find the opportune moment to give over that control to a united nation which would go on in the path we had marked out, grateful to us for the lesson taught, and emerging gradually into the satisfactory neighbor we want Mexico to be? That is the long hard question. The interventionist assumes that once our power is interposed there will be an end to the "Mexican Situation." That is the short view, the impatient view, and, we fear, the selfish view. The non-interventionist has to face a present unsatisfactory situation, full of irrational complexes, full of irritation. But the condition of neighbors will be with us for many generations; the problem, then, is one of neighborliness. The Mexican nation owes her existence to us, from her wars of independence through French intervention; she owes much economic progress to us. We owe to Mexico much, very much, of our wealth and opportunity. Mutually, the debts should be discharged with reasonableness and good sense; if we are beyond reasonableness alone, let us try arbitration of our troubles before we undertake the entire responsibility for a peace outwardly established which entails an internal problem fraught with vast consequences to our social and economic fabric.

HERBERT INGRAM PRIESTLEY.

Mexico's Dilemma. By CARL A. ACKERMAN. (New York: George H. Doran Company, 1918. p. 281. \$1.50.)

This is a reprint of a series of articles published during 1917 in the *Saturday Evening Post*. The title is a misnomer. The author considered the dilemma of Mexico as a three-horned one: financial ruin unless a foreign loan be obtained, possible predominance of German influence, or coöperation with the Allies. To speak of these as neces-

sarily distinct eventualities, or to imply that whichever one chosen must prove disastrous, is illogical.

The first article, "The Mexican Puzzle", discussed the prospect of Mexico's effecting a break with Berlin and joining the Allies. Another aspect of the puzzle was, and still is, How can Mexico obtain a foreign loan? The second article, "Rebels and Revolutions", described certain military aspects of the Revolution, features of the financial situation of Mexico, and the German propaganda of war time.

In "Germany's Ally at Tampico" the place of distinction was given to I. W. W. activities at that port. The "protection" of the oil companies by Pelaez, the German effort to control the oil supply, and the apparent sympathy of the Mexican Government for Germany, figured conspicuously. "The Last Spy Offensive" renewed the discussion of the German propaganda and our counter campaign; curiously enough, the author seemed satisfied that the German effort had been pretty effectually blocked, and that Mexico and the United States were, in the midsummer of 1917, "on friendlier terms than at any time during the war."

The chapter called "Rising or Setting Sun in Mexico" dealt with the question, which is still pending, whether the Carranza government can establish permanent peace; it attributed rather more success to the efforts of Ambassador Fletcher and others to promote pro-American feeling than was actually attained.

Being of the "timely" variety, these articles have now lost much of their original interest. The style in which they were conceived and written makes evident their purpose to convince the American reader that our efforts to keep Mexico from going pro-German were fairly successful, and also to convey to Mexico (the *Post* is offered for sale there on the same day as in the United States) that if she didn't want to feel friendly she'd better try, for her own good.

Numerous appendices add to the value of the book. The chief of these is a reprint of the Constitution of 1917 as translated by Mr. H. N. Branch. Others give information concerning the organization of the American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico City and the figures for the election of Carranza to the presidency.

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